



130 Airfield  
Royal Air Force  
Army Post Office

My darling!

Enclosed is the letter of  
Hono that I told you about on the  
telephone. Yesterday I did. I received your  
letter of Friday. I've quite a while now  
- have received no later ones than this.

However - there's a war on & as long as  
my mail gets to you in fairly good  
time - well that's something - eh?

Darling! - I'm sorry I haven't sent out

last nite when I knew you were calling. I was all dressed up to go before I remembered it & I hadn't been off the camp since last Saturday evening. I just hadda get some change - that's all!

Most of the time now we are on 24 hour call for anything. I was up this morning at 4 again. Had a couple of hours sleep to-day.

Starting please when you call me don't ask me if I've been on a trip or anything about the war - 'cause I just have to lie to you & I don't want to do that like I did last nite when you asked me. All telephone calls are being listened too by someone on the station - both incoming & out-going





personal calls & before we can telephone off  
the camp. I meant to an address off the camp;  
we have to get the Commanding Officer's  
permission.

I'm sorry about all this Blue eyes but  
honest I've gotta watch my step and anyway  
"orders is orders" as the saying goes! He should  
be able to find lots else to talk about - don't  
you think.

I met Russell the other day. He told  
me that Bob Kehrer is a p.p.w. now.  
I didn't see the little picture in your letter  
that I was supposed to return.

For god's sake hurry! take it easy on

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that walkin' huh?

I think the days off x 45's - we have had. However perhaps they'll start leave again in a few weeks when things get rolling.

I'm so glad the allowance came through O.K. - so I guess you're happy now huh?

I'm O.K. for shorts - I have a lovely dirty pair which I wear all the time!!

Butch had a letter from Slot too. He told him too - she was thinkin' of takin' the plunge.

I'm not so sure she oughta - she may be plunging in the wrong pool. She seems so indifferent about it.

I'm quite sure that she can go to Canada with that guy O.K. And anyway there's always a way of getting out.



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of the service isn't there? - waiting?

I suppose you are wondering what I saw the morning of the invasion. Well I can't tell you what I was doing there but I think you can guess that. But I can tell you that in the success of our efforts depended the lives of thousands of those boys down there in the landing craft. And I think we succeeded O.K. too.

It's a good job you didn't know what was happening to your baby that morning or you would have died in your bed. I never if I live to

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he 300 will I never forget that 5 hours  
on Tuesday morning! Never have I seen!  
and never again will I see! such a  
magnificent achievement - such a show! -  
such a hell on earth! as I saw between  
5 o'clock & 10 o'clock that morning. Never  
again will I be so scared!!

He knew nothing about it until the  
evening before - when we were told the  
whole plan & our part in the actual  
landing operations. He was briefed that  
evening. I went to bed about 12 but I  
never slept a wink - I just lay there  
& thought & prayed & shook. I think  
everyone did. He was called at 3 a.m.  
Had breakfast & was over in the air at 5 a.m.





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It was dark as pitch when we took off  
& low cloud about 1000 feet & raining  
like a son-of-a-gun. I was looking  
green section! He climbed up through  
the first layer of muck & set course  
for S. Coast where we had to  
set course for our target areas. The moon  
was shining here & there through  
huge mountains of cloud. I couldn't  
see the ground at all. I steered my  
course as best I could to a degree  
& to a few seconds of time. I left

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England & headed South for France <sup>in cloud</sup>!

It was still raining - we let down to 2000 & came out into a clearer area & we could see the sea below. You've never seen ships until you've seen an invasion! I saw a thousand in 2 minutes! - hundreds & hundreds! Like little toys in a vast sea of dirty grey - all heading one way. The sky was filled with aircraft - literally thousands kept on - in a few minutes I could discern the gun flashes 50 miles ahead. Like little fireflies flickering in the twilight.

In a matter of minutes we were



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right in the thick of it. It was  
soul shaking. The battle was just  
beginning! Hundreds of ships were  
shelling the shore batteries with  
all they'd got! - and more! Their gun  
flashes lit up the sky over the sea!  
Their shells rocked the coast like  
a tree in a hurricane. Pall boxes,  
shore guns, block houses went up  
in the air in dust like shovels full  
of sand.

In 30 minutes all hell broke  
loose on the coast. Thousands

of bombs <sup>is</sup> poured down a devastating  
rain of bombs in pattern - ~~exploding~~  
whole towns - roads - bridges - gun  
emplacements! Villages & towns  
went up to 500 feet in dust - the  
bomb flashes rose to 1,000 feet - a  
vivid yellowish-red flame of  
death! Everything was on fire!  
- towns, woods! The whole coast  
line in 20 minutes was covered in  
the smoke of battle to 4,000 feet!  
Petrol & ammo dumps blew sky high  
- sporting geysers of flame &  
billows of smoke like huge  
thunder clouds! The thousands of





men came up in the landing barges  
their machine guns blazing low  
crimson arcs towards the shore -!  
shells fell in the water all around - the  
german gunners on shore were trying  
desperately to stem the terrific over-whelm-  
ing flood that was overtaking them!  
The sky was absolutely filled with  
flack. Five minutes after I was  
in it - I felt sure that before another  
5 minutes went by I'd be dead. I  
was sure of it! For the first few  
minutes I was absolutely overcome.

I was stiff in the cockpit - I wouldn't  
speak a word over the radio! To me  
there was only one place where there wasn't  
any flack & that's where my aircraft  
was. But somehow when we'd  
finished our task for that trip we were  
all still intact. I don't know how or  
earth Ray ever stayed with me! I  
could hardly see my targets at times!  
The whole area was covered in a  
pall of yellow-black smoke. The  
sky was aglow with fire & death.  
We got out & we flew back to our  
advanced base - refueled & 45  
minutes later we were off again





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and again we were in that awful  
hail of lead. But if it was bad for  
us - it must have been terrific  
for the Jermies & for the boys down  
there in the berges. And now my  
little gal - during the next 30 minutes  
is when you almost had your  
husband!

At 6000 feet among all that confusion  
my engine stopped - of all places! I  
called up my #2 & told him to  
take over & finish the job - what I  
was going to have to crash -

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land in France. I picked a field  
& prepared myself for the bang! It by  
Le Jernis never shot me & otherwise  
I know - I was a sitting target! By  
a stroke of luck or by the hand of God  
or something; on my last approach  
to the field at 500 feet I got the  
engines running - roughly - but  
running! Somehow! - I can't remember -  
I got back to England!! Never have  
I seen such a wonderful sight as the  
coast looked then!

I got back to base about noon &  
I wrote a short note to you & I went to  
bed. I was dead-tired - my eyes





<sup>15</sup>  
ached like fire - I was played right  
out!

I have seen a bit of fightin' - but  
never have I seen such a sight as  
Tuesday morning! - such an achievement  
- such a success! - against such odds!

It was absolutely magnificent  
Some day - the people of the world  
will find out what his table place really -  
is that invasion & what will be taking  
place during the next few weeks. It  
is absolutely astounding! - I doubt

if even when <sup>16</sup> they know - if they'll  
believe it!

It was a wonderful show - I wouldn't  
have missed it for anything. I am  
proud I was able to do my little well  
bit to help it start on its way. If  
you want to know the future hope -  
just put me to sleep & I'll tell  
you - huh?!

They tell me this evening that  
they are making arrangements  
for 2 of us to have a day off per  
day - so that'll give you a chance  
and of these nights to get me some  
sleep - perhaps. It's a very wet night



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out to-nite - I forget whether you  
said you'd be calling or not to-nite.  
Anyway I'll be in if you do.

Get the sign off now - my  
darling - I love you - always  
& always - don't ever forget  
that!

Always - Your Darling!

XXXXXXXX

P.S. My love to Mum!